

Committee Checks Final Details

This 1966 American Numbranalic Assa, convention committee is checking on the last details to make the forthcoming convention the higgest auccess in A.N.A. bistory. Scated. left in right. are Mable Tettle, co-chairman fadies activities, Percy Rideout, badges and medals; Mrs. Shepard Pond, secretary and publicity: James Clapp, general chairman; Louis Werner, sergeant at arms.

W. J. Dodds, bourge: Earl Tuttie, registration; Edward Perkins, exhibits, Standing, left to right, are Chandler Foster, botel reservations; George Wardner, reception; John Frates, speakers; Anthony Porcare, assistant general chairman, Malcolm O. E. Cheil-Frest, booklet, Benjamin Lawenstam, protection.

Earliest Numismatist Possibly A Clergyman

William Bentley, a clergyman, of Spiem, Mass., was possibly the garliest numismutist in the United States, according to a fuscinating story related by Eric P. Newman, of st. Louis, one of the most astute

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autorities on early American coins and currency.

Bentley's dairy, which runs from 1787 to 1820 and was published in 1901 by the Essex Institute, has many remarks about the coins which he gathered.

He describes in detail the conpers of Connecticut, the Nova Constellatio coinage the Nava Eborge coppers and the Vermont coppers.

He was delighted to obtain a sevon by nine inch piece of Swedish plate money of Charles XII weigh ing four pounds and was surprised to find a specimen of the 1781 Vermont paper money. He was also impressed by a description be found of the 1776 pewter dollar of the Continental Congress, but did not obtain one.

Most of the coins he gathered he turned over to Judge Winthrop of Cambridge.

"Imagine, however, how many choice coins he put back into circulation which would be major rarities today." Eric Newman points out.

"The early issues of the U S. Mint were just too modern for him to collect at that time," he states.

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